Cherrywood Community Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs K. Lewis

15th February 2022

Year 1 Victorian Workshop

Dear Parents

On Tuesday 22nd March, Chestnut Class will be taking part in a full day in-school specialist workshop based on their history topic about the Victorians. The children will be immersed in to Victorian life and learn about the time period with different artefacts such as Victorian toys, take part in role play about rich and poor Victorians, attend a Victorian poor school and experience school life. This opportunity will enhance their understanding and bring the topic to life. We are really looking forward to it!

Our specialist visitor will begin the workshop as soon as the children arrive and will be finished for the usual collection time of 3.15pm. Children will be having their usual lunch arrangements for the day and there will be no travel outside of school involved in the workshop.

As part of the experience, children will be asked to come to school in Victorian dress. Attached are details as to how to create a costume but remember they can be as simple or as complicated as you like and we do not require you to purchase costumes.

The cost for this workshop is £7.30 per child. As with the majority of school visits/visitors to school, we depend on your voluntary contributions for the visit to go ahead. **If we do not receive enough payments the workshop will have to be cancelled, as the school is unable to subsidise this.**

All voluntary contributions to be paid **via Scopay** by the 8th March 2022.

If there are any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to ask your child's teacher.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Greaves
Chestnut Class Teacher

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Costume ideas







Ideas to use clothes that you may have at home already.

BOYS:

Poor Victorians: Old shirt, shorts or short trousers, waistcoat or sleeveless jumper, flat cap.

Rich Victorians: Suit and hat

GIRLS:

Poor Victorians: Long dress or skirt and blouse, old pillowcase or sheet to make a pinafore. Or use a school uniform dress with a long sleeve shirt underneath and a cloth hat. Shawl or scarf around shoulders.

Rich Victorians: Long dress, gloves, bonnet. Or you could dress up like Queen Victoria!

Chimney sweep costume

Great for a reluctant-to-dress-up boy! Ruggedly cut the bottoms off some brown or grey trousers, which they can wear with plimsolls. Add a scruffy white shirt; you could dye one in tea to make look more authentic! (To do this add a tea bag to a bucket of warm water and soak the shirt in it.) Put some dirt or brown/black face paint on their face and hands to make it look like they've been up a chimney. Accessorise with a flat cap and, of course, with a 'sweeping brush' (a static duster would be perfect).

Victorian girl costume

A long, dark-coloured dress or skirt with a long sleeved blouse. Add a shawl around the shoulders and a head scarf around the head to accessorise, all of which you should be able to find in a charity shop no problem! If you can't get a long dark dress/skirt for a child, get a knee-length adult one and tighten the waist with a belt. Plimsolls or ballet pumps on the feet would be ideal.

Victorian boy costume

If you or a friend has taken a boy in a wedding and gone for the whole suited and booted attire you'll probably have most of what you need for this to hand. Go for dark trousers, a dark coloured waistcoat and a white or cream shirt. Fasten on a bow tie or tie an adult tie into a bow around the neck. Make a paper top hat (get step-by-step instructions online). School shoes on the feet would be fine.